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(54) Electronic funds transfer system for gaming machines

(57) A gaming machine (4) is disclosed which includes apparatus necessary to send requests to and receive authorizations from an EFT system (11). All such requests for credit are limited to a preset amount, so that when a player uses an EFT transfer to obtain playing credit, that credit will be limited to no more than a specified amount. In practice, the player inserts his or her ATM card (debit card), keys in a PIN number, requests playing credit, and receives the preset amount of credit which can be converted to plays on the gaming machine (4).

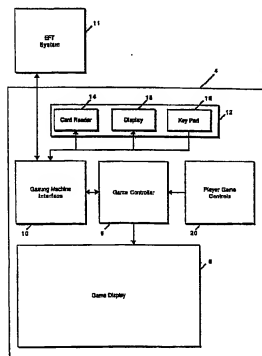


Figure 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 10 6193

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 8)
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X A	CA 2 157 872 A (ACE DENKEN KK) 15 September 1994 (1994-09-15) * abstract * * page 5, line 23 - page 7, line 6 * * page 9, line 12 - page 10, line 17 * * page 12, line 18 - line 24 * * figures 6,8,10 *	26-29 1-17, 19-21, 23-25	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 8) G07F
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 18 February 2000	Examiner Van Dop, E
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons &: member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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For more details about this annex: see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82